

**REMARKS**

**Formal Matters**

Claims 21-36 are pending after entry of the amendments set forth herein.

In amended Figs. 1-4A, the legend "Prior Art" has been added.

In amended Fig. 6C, reference numeral "11" has been added to indicate the opening in the test strip holder for receiving a test strip.

The paragraph beginning at line 27 on page 9 has been amended to include reference numeral 11, which reference numeral has been added to Figure 6C in the replacement drawing of Fig. 6C included herewith.

The paragraph beginning at line 21 on page 9 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

No new matter has been added.

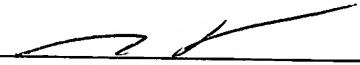
**Conclusion**

Applicant submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number LIFE-011CON.

Respectfully submitted,  
BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP

Date: 9/24/03

By:   
Susan Tall  
Registration No. 52,272

BOZICEVIC, FIELD & FRANCIS LLP  
200 Middlefield Road, Suite 200  
Menlo Park, CA 94025  
Telephone: (650) 327-3400  
Facsimile: (650) 327-3231

F:\DOCUMENT\life\011con\prelim amend.doc